

RATES OF ADVERTISING.									
Space	Number	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
10 Lines	1 inch	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2
10 Lines	2 inch	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
10 Lines	3 inch	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
10 Lines	4 inch	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
10 Lines	5 inch	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
10 Lines	6 inch	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
10 Lines	7 inch	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2
10 Lines	8 inch	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
10 Lines	9 inch	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2
10 Lines	10 inch	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2

Business Cards, when prepared for one year, are sold at a discount from these rates, which are for transient advertisements, when paid for in advance.

Foreign Notices.

L. N. KAYAN.

J. D. WATSON &amp; CO.

MERCHANTS AND SHIP AGENTS.

SHORTLAND AND HIGH STREETS,

Auckland, N. Z.

WILLIAMS, BLANCHARD &amp; CO.

Shipping and Commission Merchants,

210 California Street, San Francisco.

FLINT, PEABODY &amp; CO.

SHIPPING &amp; COMMISSION MERCHANTS

AND AGENTS OF

Frederic Barrell and Son Company.

Are prepared to furnish KEROSENE and KEROSENE

in any quantity required, and respectfully solicit consignments

of kerosene and oil.

Refer to

Messrs. Flint &amp; Co., San Francisco.

No. 408 California Street, San Francisco.

21 1/2

BOOKS &amp; STATIONERY

The Basis of Our Business.

FURNITURE.—We manufacture all kinds of furniture and

thoroughly skilled in our customers and customers.

We also have a large stock of furniture and

carpets and rugs, and are prepared to receive orders

for the same.

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## An Interesting Cruise.

NOT AND WHERE THE BLANCHE CRUISED.

H. M. S. Blanche, a gun, Captain Cortland B. Simpson, left Sydney, N. S. W.,

on 15th May, for the South Sea Islands,

with orders to visit as many islands, beche-

mer fisheries, and pearl stations, as

possible, to obtain all the reliable infor-

mation with regard to British subjects

reported murdered, the practice of skull-

hunting, treatment of islanders employed

on fisheries and plantations, the practice

of kidnapping, and to collect information

on these and all other subjects of interest.

In the first place it will be necessary to

inform your readers that for some years

there have been trading vessels running

between Australia and the South Sea

Islands, and this trade is fast increasing.

The principal produce of the islands

(which are exchanged for barter in the

shape of nankahaks, knives, beads, cloth,

pipes, tobacco, &amp;c.) is coconuts oil, copra

from the coconuts, beche-de-mer, pearls,

pearl shells, and tortoise shell.

SKULL HUNTING.

The practice of skull-hunting is a most

barbarous custom of the natives of these

islands, who in many cases, undoubtedly

have been assisted by the white men,

brought about in the following manner:

A vessel arrives at one of these islands,

and the King is informed by the master

of the vessel that he is desirous of trading

and bartering. The answer is, that he

has so much coconut oil, &amp;c., which he

is willing to part with for trade gear, pro-

vided he will allow some of his (the

King's) warriors to take passage in the

vessel to each and every island which

they are at war. This is agreed on,

and a number of those so-called warriors

are embarked. On arrival at the island,

the accompanying natives, as usual, come

alongside, when these so-called warriors

suddenly attack, kill them, and cut off

their heads, which are kept and placed on

poles in their talahouses as trophies. The

master of the vessel on his return secures

the heads as before promised in exchange

for tobacco, pipes, &amp;c., as most fancied

and wanted by the natives. It is but

right to state, that although it has been

reported by the missionaries in these

islands that white men have assisted in

this barbarous practice of skull-hunting,

yet no single case has been fully proved.

WHITE KIDNAPERS.

Although some of the white men on

board actually had a hand in the murders

committed, yet the master ought certainly

to be severely punished for his share in

aiding and abetting, more especially as

the natives of the island where the mur-

ders are committed, thinking it is done

for the white men who come for trade.

The practice is to kidnap the natives from

these islands either by force or false pre-

text, and to take them to Queensland

or Fiji, where they are engaged generally

at from £10 to £25 each. They are em-

ployed on the sugar plantations, sheep

walks, &amp;c., labor being scarce (and very

dear for white men) in the abovementioned

places, and at the end of three years they

are given about £5 or £10 worth of arti-

cles, and are sent back to their islands.

THE ISLANDS VISITED.

During the Blanche's cruise she visited

the Solomon, Caroline, Marshall, and

Gilbert Groups; and at all the islands

visited—twenty-five in number—found

the natives afraid of the men-of-war, and

in consequence extremely well behaved

and civil.

The natives of the Solomon Islands are

reported to be the most treacherous and

bloodthirsty of any known savages; they

are the most inveterate cannibals, and ap-

parently their sole object in life is to get

each other's heads. They are not, how-

ever, a courageous race, rarely, if ever,

fighting openly, but attacking suddenly

and from the rear.

ROCKS IN THE TONGS OF TREES.

At Isabel Island, Solomon Group, they

have a curious mode of building houses

in the trees, which is peculiar to this island

only. The tree village visited was built

on the summit of a rocky steep mountain,

## A GHOSTLY SIGHT.

At one of the villages on the sea-shore

of Isabel Island, a most sickly and repul-

sive sight presented itself. Across the

door of the chief's house were nailed

twenty-three or twenty-five human heads,

taken about three weeks previously by

this chief and his followers, from some of

his fellow-islanders, who, they stated, had

turned bushmen. The attack had been

made from the rear, as was evident by

the skulls. The flesh was still on the

bones, the eyes protruding, jaws broken,

and the stench frightful. The bodies of

all these men had been eaten.

CHEAP MEAT.

At M'Askill Island, Solomon Group, we

obtained seven large turtles for about

£10 of tobacco, which cost \$1 a pound

at Sydney. These turtles averaged 110 lbs

of flesh each when killed and cut up,

being at the rate of 38 lbs a penny.

SAVAGE FASHIONS.

At Lagunor Island, Caroline Group,

where it is doubtful if any white men had

been their for years, as no sign of traffic

was found, the men wore their hair in

regular European fashion, chignons being

commonest, which were kept up by a

comb having four teeth, the top part of

the comb that was visible being carved,

and the whole surmounted with a cock's

feather; it gave them rather an effeminate

appearance. At Hogelin Islands, Caroline

Group, the natives were very much fright-

ened, having entirely deserted during the

night the village off which the Blanche

anchored. The next day, seeing a num-

ber of canoes collected together, a boat

was sent to endeavor to persuade them to

come alongside and barter. After a time

the boat succeeded in getting amongst

them. They were all quite naked, painted

in regular savage style, and the boats

loaded with spears, slings, and stones.

They eventually came alongside, and

were very friendly.

At St. Matthias' Island, Solomon Group,

no anchorage could be found. The na-

tives came down to the beach in great

numbers, and seemed very anxious for

the vessel to stop, shouting and gesticulat-

ing in the most absurd manner; both men

and women are quite naked—the latter

were a sort of apron behind.

A DANGEROUS COAST.

Visited the S.E. coast of New Guinea,

but it was so full of shoals even at four or

five miles from the land, that it was dan-

gerous to proceed, so had to turn back

after anchoring for one night. The na-

tives came off to us in very large canoes,

having enormous outriggers; they were

fine looking men, quite naked, not very

dark in color, and wore their hair frizzled

out.

SUMMARY OF THE VOYAGE.

The Blanche arrived at Sydney yester-

day, 180 days since leaving, during which

time the vessel had over 10,000 miles

of water, being 70 miles a day, including

all stoppages, anchored at twenty-five

islands, and passed close to about thirty

others. The engines have made 226,971

revolutions, and the ship's company had

8 days' fresh meat, and 181 of salt meat.

—Otago Witness.

Why Representative Government is

Possible.

There is just at this time a tendency

to discuss governmental systems, and in-

cidentally to exalt or detract from the po-

licies which pertain to those systems. This

tendency is universal throughout the civil-

ized world. It is observable in events

transpiring in China and in Japan. It is

still more marked in Europe, which seems

to stand upon the threshold of experiment,

opening the door to change. To us, Eu-

ropeans appear to be in a state of transition,

not of so sudden and violent a kind as to

be denominated revolution, but under-

going the processes of structural change un-